



ASSEMBLYMEMBER NICOLE PARRA

Representing the 30th Assembly District



Parra Notes

August 4, 2006

Hello Friends:

WEEKLY HIGHLIGHT

This week was a special one, because I had the opportunity to spend time with **interns from my Bakersfield office**. We met with **Dick Taylor**, who provided a guided tour of **Bakersfield's off-highway vehicle park**; with **Bakersfield attorney Milt Younger**, who gave the interns an intimate perspective and great understanding of the legal field; and with **Jim Scott and Robin Mangarin, from KGET Channel 17**, who let the interns see how news production works.

It was a great experience for the interns, who work so hard and do so much for our office. I really enjoy providing these kinds of job shadowing opportunities for interns and students, because I feel it is important, as an elected official, that I play a powerful role in the development of California's next generation of leaders.

NOW TO THE REST OF MY WEEK IN THE DISTRICT

To start out my week, I met with **Dick Taylor** to take a tour of the almost completed **off-highway vehicle park in Bakersfield**. The project is in the final stages of the environmental impact review process and it promises to be a significant draw for off-highway vehicle enthusiasts from around California. Off-highway vehicle activities are expanding rapidly and the sport offers a great family oriented activity in which Californians can participate.

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I also had the chance to meet with **Bob Severs, chief executive officer for Managed Care Systems**. We discussed a number of the health care related issues facing California, while also focusing in on some of this year's health care legislation in the Assembly and the Senate.

To find out more about **Managed Care Systems**, please visit their web site www.managedcaresystems.com

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Also this week, I met with **Linda McKenzie** (field representative), **Inez Moreno** (E-Board representative), and **Sterling Buick** (C.O.P.E. representative) from the **Service Employees International Union (SEIU)**. We discussed a number of key pieces of legislation relating to hospitals, nursing staff, and seniors that will be addressed next week when the Assembly re-convenes.

To learn more about the efforts of the **SEIU**, please take a look at their web site www.seiu.org/

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Another great meeting I had was with **Stanley Wilson**, who provided me with a tour of the **Shafter Museum**. **Stanley** is a partner in a large farming operation in the **Shafter** community and surrounding areas, and so, he has an admirable passion for the **Shafter Museum, which showcases antiquities and relics of past farming methods and practices**.

The **Shafter Museum** is located at **150 N. Central Valley Highway**, and I really encourage everyone to

take some time and visit this fantastic glimpse into our region's farming history. The museum can also be contacted at **(661) 746-1557**.

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Abdi Soltani also paid me a visit this week in **Bakersfield** to discuss his work for the **Campaign for College Opportunity (CCO)**, for which **Abdi** serves as executive director. The **Campaign for College Opportunity** is a nonprofit organization solely devoted to ensuring that the next generation of college-age students in California has the chance to go to college as promised by the state 1960 Master Plan for Higher Education. The co-founders of the **CCO** are the **California Business Roundtable**, the **Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund** and the **Community College League of California**. The **Campaign** is also supported financially by a number of well-known institutions

I encourage you to check out the web site of the **Campaign for College Opportunity** by accessing their web site <http://www.collegecampaign.org/>

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Toward the end of the week, I spoke with **James Tilton**, the **Secretary of the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**. We talked a lot about **Governor Schwarzenegger's** upcoming extraordinary session on prison reform and also about the state prison and community correctional facilities located in the 30th Assembly District. One of the next great challenges our state faces is the effective and efficient administration of our prison system, and with the **Governor** firmly behind this proposal for change, I feel very strongly that we can achieve significant results.

To learn more about the **Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation**, please view their web site www.cya.ca.gov/, or if you would like to learn more about the **Governor's extraordinary session**, please go to his web site www.governor.ca.gov

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UPCOMING EVENTS

In an effort to bring an awareness of the issues that face our **State**, I will be sponsoring the **2nd Annual Valley Leadership Institute (VLI)**, which will be held in **Sacramento** on **August 7 thru August 10, 2006**.

The purpose of the **Institute** is to promote interest in the formation of public policy, to provide meaningful access to decision makers, and to help facilitate a working network of leaders in the **30th Assembly District**.

It will incorporate meetings and seminars for citizens from the **30th Assembly District** to learn about the democratic process, meet local government officials and learn about key issues facing the Central Valley. Participants will meet experts in their respective fields and see how the State's government functions and operates.

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The **High Risk Sex Offender Task Force**, established by **Governor Schwarzenegger** earlier this year, will host **three public hearings** to discuss placement and supervision of **High Risk Sex Offenders (HRSO) in California**.

The public hearing schedule is as follows:

- **10 a.m.-1 p.m., Sacramento, Monday, Aug. 7; Room 437, State Capitol;**
- **1:30-4 p.m. Fresno, Tuesday, Aug. 8; Board of Supervisors, Hall of Records, 2281 Tulare Street, Room 301; and**
- **1:30-4 p.m. Santa Ana, Wednesday, Aug. 9; Rancho Santiago Community College District Board Hearing Room, 2323 N. Broadway**

Participants include task force **co-chairs Assemblymember Rudy Bermudez (D-Norwalk)**,

Assemblymember Todd Spitzer (R-Orange), and California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation (CDCR) Secretary James E. Tilton as well as other members of the task force.

These public hearings are an opportunity for the public to provide input on issues of supervising and placing **High Risk Sex Offenders in communities in California**. **Governor Schwarzenegger** issued **Executive Order S-08-06** on May 15, 2006, establishing the task force. It is charged with reviewing the current statutory requirements and departmental policies on notification, placement, monitoring, and enforcement of parole policies with regard to high risk sex offenders and to provide recommendations to improve them by Aug. 15, 2006.

HELPFUL LINKS

Operation Hero Miles

<http://www.heromiles.org/>

Care Packages for Soldiers

<http://anysoldier.com/>

County Information:

Fresno

<http://www.co.fresno.ca.us/portal/>

Kings

<http://www.countyofkings.com/>

Kern

<http://www.co.kern.ca.us/>

Tulare

<http://www.co.tulare.ca.us/>

City Information:

Coalinga

www.coalinga.com

Kingsburg

www.cityofkingsburg-ca.gov/

Corcoran

<http://www.cityofcorcoran.com/>

Lemoore

<http://www.lemoore.com/>

Bakersfield

<http://www.bakersfieldcity.us/>

McFarland

<http://www.mcfarlandcity.org/>

Wasco

<http://www.ci.wasco.ca.us/>

Huron

www.fresnocog.org/city1/city_of_huron.htm

Avenal

<http://www.avenalcalifornia.com/>

Hanford

<http://www.ci.hanford.ca.us/>

Arvin

<http://www.arvin.org/>

Delano

<http://www.delano-ca.org/default.htm>

Shafter

<http://www.shafter.com/>

NEED HOMEWORK HELP?

The **California State Library** has made available through their website a new service called **Live Homework Help**. This service enables students to connect on-line with a tutor for assistance with homework questions. Supported by Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) federal funding, students can access Live Homework Help through [28 California public libraries](#). It is important to note that the tutors who respond to student questions are screened, trained, and closely monitored.

Live Homework Help is easy! Log on to <http://www.Kerncountylibrary.org> from your computer any time between 1:00 p.m. and 10:00 p.m. and follow the simple setup instructions.

MEETING REQUESTS

If you or your organization would like to set up a time to meet with me or would like for me to attend an event you are sponsoring, please feel free to contact my **Executive Secretary Anna Goddard** at (916) 319-2030 or by e-mail at Anna.Goddard@asm.ca.gov.

INTERNS WANTED

I am accepting applications for the internship program in my **Hanford, Bakersfield** and **Sacramento** offices. Candidates should be residents of the **30th Assembly District**, possess solid research and communication skills, and have a strong interest in public policy and political issues facing the **Central Valley**. Applications can be found by going to:
<http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30>.

For Hanford office internships contact **Richard Valle** at **(559) 585-7170** or by e-mail at Richard.Valle@asm.ca.gov.

For Bakersfield office internships contact **Nerissa Robinson** at **(661) 334-3745** or by e-mail at Nerissa.Robinson@asm.ca.gov

For Sacramento office internships contact **Brandon Sanders** at **(916) 319-2030** or by e-mail at Brandon.Sanders@asm.ca.gov.

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Hanford Office:

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Fax: (559) 585-7175

Capitol Office:

State Capitol
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Email: Assemblymember.Parra@assembly.ca.gov

Web Site: <http://democrats.assembly.ca.gov/members/a30/>

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